

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A device on a spinning preparatory machine having at least one separating blade which is associated with a roller and co-operates with a fixed-position counter element to define a separation opening for impurities, wherein the separating blade is arranged on a support which is displaceable substantially parallel to the periphery of the roller for adjusting the distance between the separating blade and the fixed-position counter-element, the device further comprises an extraction chamber which is mounted on the support, and the extraction chamber co-operates with a guide element, the guide element being arranged to be in a fixed position during operation of the machine and being able to guide separated impurities and/or air into the opening of the extraction chamber.

Claim 2 (Original): A waste removal device for a spinning preparatory machine comprising a separating blade mounted on a support, said support being displaceable with said separating blade for size adjustment of a separating opening at a roller of the spinning preparatory machine, said device further comprising an extraction chamber mounted on said support having an extraction chamber inlet and a guide element in cooperating relationship with said extraction chamber for guiding separated waste into said extraction chamber inlet.

Claim 3 (Original): A waste removal device according to claim 2, comprising a counter-element arranged in a fixed position and defining with said guide element an opening which is of substantially constant size during operation.

Claim 4 (Original): A waste removal device according to claim 3, in which the size of the opening can be adjusted.

Claim 5 (Original): A waste removal device according to claim 2, in which the guide element includes a curved guide surface.

Claim 6 (Original): A waste removal device according to claim 2, in which the guide element has a free end, the free end be in co-operating relationship with the extraction chamber.

Claim 7 (Original): A waste removal device according to claim 6, in which said free end is of decreasing thickness.

Claim 8 (Original): A waste removal device according to claim 2, in which the extraction chamber is provided with a guiding member which cooperates with the guide element.

Claim 9 (Original): A waste removal device according to claim 8, in which the guiding member is displaceable with respect to the guide element.

Claim 10 (Original): A waste removal device according to claim 8, in which the rear surface of the guide element and a guiding surface of the guiding member are curved and have substantially the same radius of curvature, said guiding member being displaceable in a substantially parallel direction relative to said guide element.

Claim 11 (Original): A waste removal device according to claim 8, in which at least a part of the guide element and at least a guide surface of the guiding member can be brought into nesting relationship with one another.

Claim 12 (Original): A waste removal device according to claim 2, having a counter-surface which, in cooperation with the guide element defines an air intake opening for intake of air, the air intake opening being in communication with an inlet in the extraction device for receiving waste from the separation opening.

Claim 13 (Original): A waste removal device according to claim 2, in which said guide element is stationary at least during operation of the spinning preparatory machine.

Claim 14 (New): A method for removing impurities from a spinning preparatory machine having a separating blade associated with a roller, said separating blade co-operating with a fixed-position counter element to define a separation opening for the passage of impurities, the method comprising:

displacing said separating blade in a direction substantially parallel to the periphery of said roller;

said displacement adjusting the distance between the separating blade and the fixed-position counter-element;

separating impurities using said separating blade; and

guiding the separated impurities into an opening of an extraction chamber.

Claim 15 (New): A waste removal device for a spinning preparatory machine comprising:

a first roller;

a second roller rotatable about a central axis;

a support rotatable about said central axis and displaceable substantially parallel to a surface of said second roller;

a separating blade affixed to said support, displacement of said support adjusting the size of a separation opening between said first roller and said separating blade;

an extraction chamber mounted on said support, said extraction chamber having an inlet for receiving separated waste; and

a guide element for guiding waste into the inlet of said extraction chamber.

Claim 16 (New): A waste removal device according to claim 15, having an opening between said first roller and said guide element, said opening being of substantially constant size during displacement of said support.

Claim 17 (New): A waste removal device according to claim 16, wherein the size of said opening is adjustable.

Claim 18 (New): A waste removal device according to claim 15, wherein said guide element and said extraction chamber are moveable relative to each other.

Claim 19 (New): A waste removal device according to claim 15, wherein said guide element is stationary during operation of the spinning preparatory machine.

Claim 20 (New): An apparatus for removing impurities from a spinning preparatory machine having a separating blade associated with a roller, said separating blade co-operating with a fixed-position counter element to define a separation opening for the passage of impurities, said roller rotatable about a central axis, the apparatus comprising:
means for displacing said separating blade around said central axis of said roller in a direction

substantially parallel to the surface of said roller,
means for separating impurities using said separating blade; and
means for guiding the separated impurities into an opening of an extraction chamber.